BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against:

CAROL ANN BUCKNAM 1920 S. BOATSON AVENUE ROWLAND HEIGHTS, CA 91748

Application for Licensure by Endorsement

Respondent

Case No. 2008-141

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in the above entitled matter.

This Decision shall become effective on APRIL 25, 2008.

IT IS SO ORDERED MARCH 25, 2008.

President

Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs

Trancine Water

State of California

1 EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General of the State of California 2 MARC D. GREENBAUM Supervising Deputy Attorney General 3 ANNÉ HUNTER, State Bar No. 136982 Deputy Attorney General 4 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702 Los Angeles, CA 90013 5 Telephone: (213) 897-2114 Facsimile: (213) 897-2804 6 Attorneys for Complainant 8 9 BEFORE THE **BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING** 10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS** STATE OF CALIFORNIA 11 12 In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against: Case No. 2008-141 13 CAROL ANN BUCKNAM OAH No. 1920 S. Batson Avenue 14 Rowland Heights, CA 91748 STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND Application for Licensure by Endorsement DISCIPLINARY ORDER 15 Respondent. 16 17 18 In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of this matter, consistent with the 19 public interest and the responsibility of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of 20 Consumer Affairs, State of California, the parties hereby agree to the following Stipulated 21 Settlement and Disciplinary Order which will be submitted to the Board for approval and 22 adoption as the final disposition of the Statement of Issues. 23 **PARTIES** 24 1. Complainant Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H, R.N., is the Executive Officer of the 25 Board of Registered Nursing. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is 26 represented in this matter by Edmund G. Brown Jr., Attorney General of the State of California, 27 by Anne Hunter, Deputy Attorney General. 28

- 2. Respondent Carol Ann Bucknam is representing herself in this proceeding and has chosen not to exercise her right to be represented by counsel.
- 3. On or about March 15, 2007, Respondent submitted an application to the Board of Registered Nursing to obtain a Registered Nurse License by Endorsement. The application was denied on or about May 16, 2007.

JURISDICTION

4. Statement of Issues No. 2008-141 was filed before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Statement of Issues and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on November 1, 2007. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Statement of Issues. A copy of Statement of Issues No. 2008-141 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Statement of Issues No. 2008-141. Respondent has also carefully read, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Statement of Issues; the right to be represented by counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Statement of Issues No. 2008-141.

9. Respondent agrees that her Application for Licensure by Endorsement is subject to denial and she agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

CIRCUMSTANCES IN MITIGATION

10. Respondent Carol Ann Bucknam has never been the subject of any disciplinary action by the Board of Registered Nursing. She is admitting responsibility at an early stage in the proceedings.

RESERVATION

11. The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Board of Registered Nursing or other professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

CONTINGENCY

Nursing. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Registered Nursing may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or her counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect; except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

OTHER MATTERS

- 13. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
 - 14. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties

agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the application of Respondent Carol Ann Bucknam for licensure is hereby granted and a license shall be issued to respondent upon successful completion of all licensing requirements. Said Registered Nurse License shall immediately be revoked, the order of revocation stayed and Respondent placed on probation for a period of four (4) years on the following conditions.

Severability Clause - Each term and condition of probation contained herein is a separate and distinct term and condition. If any term and condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each term and condition of this Order shall separately be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

- 1. **Obey All Laws.** Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws. A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by Respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence. To permit monitoring of compliance with this term, Respondent shall submit completed fingerprint cards and fingerprint fees within 45 days of the effective date of the decision, unless previously submitted as part of the licensure application process. Respondent shall submit a recent 2" x 2" photograph of himself or herself within 45 days of the effective date of the final decision.
- 2. Comply with Probation Program. Respondent shall fully comply with the terms and conditions of the Probation Program established by the Board and cooperate with representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of Respondent's compliance with the Probation Program. Respondent shall inform the Board in writing within no more than 15 days of any address change and shall at all times maintain an active, current license status with the Board, including during any period of suspension.

- 3. **Report in Person.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board or its designated representatives.
- 4. Residency or Practice Outside of State. Periods of residency or practice as a registered nurse outside of California will not apply to the reduction of this probationary term. Respondent must provide written notice to the Board within 15 days of any change of residency or practice outside the state.
- 5. Submit Written Reports. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall submit or cause to be submitted such written reports/declarations and verification of actions under penalty of perjury, as required by the Board. These reports/declarations shall contain statements relative to Respondent's compliance with all the terms and conditions of the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be required by the Board or its representatives.

Provide Decision - Respondent shall provide a copy of this decision to the nursing regulatory agency in every state and territory in which she has a registered nurse license.

6. Function as a Registered Nurse. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall engage in the practice of registered nursing in California for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

For purposes of compliance with the section, "engage in the practice of registered nursing" may include, when approved by the Board, volunteer work as a registered nurse, or work in any non-direct patient care position that requires licensure as a registered nurse.

The Board may require that advanced practice nurses engage in advanced practice nursing for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition.

7. **Employment Approval and Reporting Requirements**. Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before commencing any employment, paid or voluntary, as a registered nurse. Respondent shall cause to be submitted to the Board all performance evaluations and other employment related reports as a registered nurse upon request of the Board.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this decision to her employer and immediate supervisor prior to commencement of any nursing or other health care related employment.

Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she obtains any nursing or other health care related employment, when such employment is not as a registered nurse. Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she is terminated from any registered nursing, other nursing, or other health care related employment with a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the termination.

8. **Supervision.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board regarding Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration before commencing any employment as a registered nurse.

Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a registered nurse in good standing (no current discipline) with the Board of Registered Nursing, unless alternative methods of supervision and/or collaboration (e.g., with an advanced practice nurse or physician) are approved.

Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration may include, but is not limited to the following:

- (a) Maximum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is present in the patient care area or in any other work setting at all times.
- (b) Moderate The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is in the patient care unit or in any other work setting at least half the hours Respondent works.
- (c) Minimum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration has person-to-person communication with Respondent at least twice during each shift worked.
 - (d) Home Health Care If Respondent is approved to work in the home health

care setting, the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall have person-toperson communication with Respondent as required by the Board each work day. Respondent
shall maintain telephone or other telecommunication contact with the individual providing
supervision and/or collaboration as required by the Board during each work day. The individual
providing supervision and/or collaboration shall conduct, as required by the Board, periodic, onsite visits to patients' homes visited by Respondent with or without Respondent present.

9. **Employment Limitations.** Respondent shall not work for a nurse's registry, in any private duty position as a registered nurse, a temporary nurse placement agency, or for an in-house nursing pool.

Respondent shall not work for a licensed home health agency as a visiting nurse unless the registered nursing supervision and other protections for home visits have been approved by the Board. Respondent shall not work in any other registered nursing occupation where home visits are required.

Respondent shall not work in any health care setting as a supervisor of registered nurses. The Board may additionally restrict Respondent from supervising licensed vocational nurses and/or unlicensed assistive personnel on a case-by-case basis.

Respondent shall not work as a faculty member in an approved school of nursing or as an instructor in a Board approved continuing education program.

Respondent shall work only on a regularly assigned, identified and predetermined worksite(s) and shall not work in a float capacity.

If Respondent is working or intends to work in excess of 40 hours per week, the Board may request documentation to determine whether there should be restrictions on the hours of work.

- 10. **Complete a Nursing Course(s).** Respondent shall comply with the appropriate requirement, as specified in the decision:
- a) Respondent, at her own expense, shall enroll and successfully complete a course(s) relevant to the practice of registered nursing no later than six months prior to the end of her probationary term.

Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before enrolling in the course(s). Respondent shall submit to the Board the original transcripts or certificates of completion for the above required course(s). The Board shall return the original documents to Respondent after photocopying them for its records.

11. Violation of Probation. If Respondent violates the conditions of her probation, the Board after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may set aside the stay order and impose the stayed discipline (revocation/suspension) of Respondent's license.

If during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to revoke probation has been filed against Respondent's license or the Attorney General's Office has been requested to prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation against Respondent's license, the probationary period shall automatically be extended and shall not expire until the accusation or petition has been acted upon by the Board. Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license will be fully restored.

12. **License Surrender.** During Respondent's term of probation, if she ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the conditions of probation, Respondent may surrender her license to the Board. The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances, without further hearing. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license and wall certificate, Respondent will no longer be subject to the conditions of probation.

Surrender of Respondent's license shall be considered a disciplinary action and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board. A registered nurse whose license has been surrendered may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than the following minimum periods from the effective date of the disciplinary decision:

(1) Two years for reinstatement of a license that was surrendered for any reason other than a mental or physical illness; or

(2) One year for a license surrendered for a mental or physical illness.

13. **Physical Examination.** Within 45 days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent, at her expense, shall have a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, who is approved by the Board before the assessment is performed, submit an assessment of Respondent's physical condition and capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. Such an assessment shall be submitted in a format acceptable to the Board. If medically determined, a recommended treatment program will be instituted and followed by Respondent with the physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant providing written reports to the Board on forms provided by the Board.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant making this determination shall immediately notify the Probation Program and Respondent by telephone. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Probation Monitor. During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required until the Probation Monitor has notified Respondent that a medical determination permits Respondent to resume practice.

Dependence. Respondent, at her expense, shall successfully complete during the probationary period or shall have successfully completed prior to commencement of probation a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program of at least six months. As required, reports shall be submitted by the program on forms provided by the Board. If Respondent has not completed a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program prior to commencement of probation, Respondent, within 45 days from the effective date of the decision, shall be enrolled in a program. If a program is not successfully completed within the first nine months of probation, the Board shall consider Respondent in violation of probation.

Based on Probation Program recommendation, each week Respondent shall be required to attend at least one, but no more than five 12-step recovery meetings or equivalent (e.g., Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, etc.) and a nurse support group as

approved and directed by the Board. If a nurse support group is not available, an additional 12 step meeting or equivalent shall be added. Respondent shall submit dated and signed documentation confirming such attendance to the Board during the entire period of probation. Respondent shall continue with the recovery plan recommended by the treatment/rehabilitation program or a licensed mental health examiner and/or other ongoing recovery groups.

shall completely abstain from the possession, injection or consumption by any route of all psychotropic (mood altering) drugs, including alcohol, except when the same are ordered by a health care professional legally authorized to do so and are part of documented medical treatment. Respondent shall have sent to the Board, in writing and within fourteen (14) days, by the prescribing physician or dentist, a report identifying the medication, dosage, the date the medication was prescribed, Respondent's prognosis, the date the medication will no longer be required, and the effect on the recovery plan, if appropriate.

Respondent shall identify for the Board a single physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant who shall be aware of Respondent's history of substance abuse and will coordinate and monitor any prescriptions for Respondent for dangerous drugs, controlled substances or mood-altering drugs. The coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant shall report to the Board on a quarterly basis Respondent's compliance with this condition. If any substances considered addictive have been prescribed, the report shall identify a program for the time limited use of any such substances.

The Board may require the single coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant to be a specialist in addictive medicine, or to consult with a specialist in addictive medicine.

participate in a random, biological fluid testing or a drug screening program which the Board approves. The length of time and frequency will be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent is responsible for keeping the Board informed of Respondent's current telephone number at all times. Respondent shall also ensure that messages may be left at the telephone

number when she is not available and ensure that reports are submitted directly by the testing agency to the Board, as directed. Any confirmed positive finding shall be reported immediately to the Board by the program and Respondent shall be considered in violation of probation.

In addition, Respondent, at any time during the period of probation, shall fully cooperate with the Board or any of its representatives, and shall, when requested, submit to such tests and samples as the Board or its representatives may require for the detection of alcohol, narcotics, hypnotics, dangerous drugs, or other controlled substances.

If Respondent has a positive drug screen for any substance not legally authorized and not reported to the coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, and the Board files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may suspend Respondent from practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation or the accusation.

17. **Mental Health Examination.** Respondent shall, within 45 days of the effective date of this decision, have a mental health examination including psychological testing as appropriate to determine her capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. The examination will be performed by a psychiatrist, psychologist or other licensed mental health practitioner approved by the Board. The examining mental health practitioner will submit a written report of that assessment and recommendations to the Board. All costs are the responsibility of Respondent. Recommendations for treatment, therapy or counseling made as a result of the mental health examination will be instituted and followed by Respondent.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed mental health care practitioner making this determination shall immediately notify the Probation Program and Respondent by telephone. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and may not resume practice until notified by the Probation Monitor. During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required, until the Probation Monitor has notified Respondent that a mental health determination permits Respondent to resume practice.

18. **Therapy or Counseling Program.** Respondent, at her expense, shall participate in an on-going counseling program until such time as the Board releases her from this

requirement and only upon the recommendation of the counselor. Written progress reports from the counselor will be required at various intervals. During any suspension period, all probation terms are in full force and effect except those relating to actual nursing practice. 19. Other Board or Regulatory Agency Orders. Respondent is subject to concurrent disciplinary order(s) from the NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING (Nevada Board). If Respondent violates the Nevada Board's order(s), the violation shall be deemed a violation of probationary conditions imposed by the Board, and may result in the filing of an Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation. **ACCEPTANCE** I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. 1 understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Application for Licensure by Endorsement. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Registered Nursing. DATED: 1-16-07 Respondent 1// 1//

ENDORSEMENT The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.. DATED: Jan. 23, 2008 EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General of the State of California MARC D. GREENBAUM Supervising Deputy Attorney General Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant DOJ Matter ID: LA2007601062 60263300.wpd

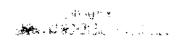


Exhibit A Statement of Issues No. 2008-141

1	EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General
2	of the State of California MARC D. GREENBAUM
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General ANNE HUNTER, State Bar No. 136982
4	Deputy Attorney General 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-2114
6	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804
7	Attorneys for Complainant
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9	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA
11	
12	In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against: Case No. 2008-141
13	CAROL ANN BUCKNAM 1920 S. Batson Avenue STATEMENT OF ISSUES
14	Rowland Heights, CA 91748 Application for Licensure by Endorsement STATEMENT OF ISSUES
15	
16	Respondent.
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18	Complainant alleges:
19	<u>PARTIES</u>
20	1. Complainant Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H., R.N. brings this Statement of
21	Issues solely in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing,
22	Department of Consumer Affairs (Board).
23	2. On or about March 26, 2007, the Board of Registered Nursing received an
24	application for Licensure by Endorsement from Carol Ann Bucknam (Respondent). On or about
25	March 15, 2007, Carol Ann Bucknam certified under penalty of perjury to the truthfulness of all
26	statements, answers, and representations in the application. The Board denied the application on
27	May 16, 2007.
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1 **JURISDICTION** 2 3. This Statement of Issues is brought before the Board of Registered Nursing under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and 3 4 Professions Code unless otherwise indicated. 5 **STATUTORY PROVISIONS** 6 4. Section 2736 of the Business and Professions Code (Code) provides, in pertinent part, that the Board of Registered Nursing (Board) may deny a license when it finds that 7 the applicant has committed any acts constituting grounds for denial of licensure under section 8 9 480 of that Code. Section 480 of the Code provides, in pertinent part: 10 "(a) A board may deny a license regulated by this code on the grounds that the 11 12 applicant has one of the following: 13 "(3) Done any act which if done by a licentiate of the business or profession in 14 question, would be grounds for suspension or revocation of license." 15 16 Section 2761 of the Code provides in pertinent part: 6. "The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or 17 deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following: 18 "(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following: 19 "(1) Incompetence, or gross negligence in carrying out usual certified or licensed 20 21 nursing functions. 22 23 "(4) Denial of licensure, revocation, suspension, restriction, or any other disciplinary action against a health care professional license or certificate by another state. . . . 24 "(d) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or 25 abetting the violating of, or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter [the 26 27 Nursing Practice Act] or regulations adopted pursuant to it. 28 111

7. Section 2762 of the Code provides in pertinent part:

"In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act], it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

- "(a) Obtain or possess in violation of law, or prescribe, or except as directed by a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, or podiatrist administer to himself or herself, or furnish or administer to another, any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022.
- "(b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.
 - 8. Section 480 of the Code provides in pertinent part:
- "(a) A board may deny a license regulated by this code on the grounds that the applicant has one of the following:

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"(3) Done any act which if done by a licentiate of the business or profession in question, would be grounds for suspension or revocation of license.

"The board may deny a license pursuant to this subdivision only if the crime or act is substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of the business or profession for which application is made. convicted of a misdemeanor if he has met all applicable requirements of the criteria of rehabilitation developed by the board to evaluate the rehabilitation of a person when considering the denial of a license under subdivision (a) of Section 482."

FIRST CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION

(Disciplinary Action by Another State)

- 9. Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code sections 2761, subdivision (a)(4), and 480 in that the Nevada State Board of Nursing has disciplined her license to practice registered nursing in that state. The circumstances are as follows:
- a. On or about September 21, 2006, pursuant to Agreement for Probation entered in Case No. 0103-06YRE, respondent's Registered Nurse License No. RN31233 issued by the State of Nevada on February 27, 1998, was revoked, the revocation order was stayed, and the license placed on probation for 5 years under certain terms and conditions. Respondent admitted in the Agreement to Probation that she is addicted to alcohol or controlled substances, that her addiction constitutes a violation of Nevada Revised Statutes section 632.320, subdivisions (5) (controlled substances and/or alcohol) and (7) (unprofessional conduct), and Nevada Administrative Code section 632.890, subdivisions (9) (impaired practice) and (35)(failing to comply). The terms and conditions of her probation ordered by the Nevada State Board of Nursing include but are not limited to abstaining from alcohol, mood-altering drugs and controlled substances; participating in a Board-approved after care program; submitting evidence of attending Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous meetings; and submitting to random urine, blood or other tests for drugs of abuse.
- b. On October 8, 2002, the Nevada Board of Nursing issued an order in Case No. 1210-00C revoking respondent's probation that had commenced on January 25, 2002. Respondent's probation was revoked because she failed to complete a chemical dependency program as required in the Agreement for Probation.
- C. On January 25, 2002, in the Agreement for Probation

 (Disciplinary) resolving Case No. 1210-00C, the Nevada State Board of Nursing placed respondent on three year's probation. In the agreement respondent acknowledged that the Nevada State Board of Nursing had received a complaint indicating that on or about December 7, 2000, she was sent home from the hospital where she was sent to work because her breath allegedly smelled of alcohol and she was incoherent. Respondent further acknowledged in the

agreement for probation that she was suspended on or about September 10, 1999, for substandard work performance during August 1999, and that on or about February 28, 2000, USA Personnel terminated her employment because of substandard work performance at Desert Springs Hospital. The terms and conditions of probation included abstaining from alcohol, mood-altering drugs and controlled substances; being evaluated for chemical dependency; being counseled for chemical dependency; submitting evidence of participation in AA or Gamblers Anonymous (GA) meetings; submitting AA or GA sponsor reports; and submitting to random urine, blood or other tests for alcohol or drugs of abuse. SECOND CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION (Unprofessional Conduct) 10. Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code section 2761, subdivision (a), in that respondent was observed working as a nurse while her breath smelled of alcohol and she was incoherent. The circumstances alleged in paragraph 9 above are realleged and incorporated herein by reference as though set forth in full. THIRD CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION (Dangerous Use of Alcohol) Respondent's application is subject to denial under Code section 2762, 11. subdivision (b), in that respondent was observed working as a nurse while her breath smelled of alcohol and she was incoherent. The circumstances alleged in paragraph 9 above are realleged and incorporated herein by reference as though set forth in full. ///

PRAYER WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board issue a decision: Denying the application of Carol Ann Bucknam for a Application for 1. Licensure by Endorsement; and Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper. 2. DATED: 10/25/07 **Executive Officer** Board of Registered Nursing State of California Complainant LA2007601062 60252673.wpd

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BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF

CAROL BUCKNAM

RESPONDENT

LICENSED PROFESSIONAL NURSE

NEVADA LICENSE NO. RN31233

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AGREEMENT FOR PROBATION

CASE NO. 0103-06YRE

This Agreement is hereby entered into between CAROL BUCKNAM, (RESPONDENT) and the NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING, (BOARD).

It is hereby stipulated and agreed, by and between the parties to the above-entitled matter, that the following statements are true:

- 1. Respondent is aware of, understands, and has been advised of the effect of this Agreement, which Respondent herein has carefully read and fully acknowledges. No coercion has been exerted on the Respondent. Respondent acknowledges her right to an attorney at her own expense. The Respondent has had the benefit at all times of obtaining advice from competent counsel of her choice.
- 2. Respondent understands the nature of the allegations under investigation by the Nevada State Board of Nursing. Respondent freely admits that on or about January 21, 2002 the Board accepted an Agreement for Probation for five (5) years as result of her impairment on duty while employed as a registered nurse. Respondent acknowledges that on or about October 8, 2002, the Board revoked her license for one (1) year as result of her failing to complete a chemical dependency program as required. Respondent freely admits that she is addicted to alcohol and/or controlled substances. Respondent acknowledges this conduct constitutes a violation of the Nevada Revised Statutes 632.320 (5) controlled substances and/or alcohol, and (7) unprofessional conduct, and Nevada Administrative Code 632.890 (9) impaired practice and

- (35) failing to comply. Respondent further acknowledges that such acts and admissions subject her to disciplinary action by the Board.
- 3. Respondent is aware of the Respondent's rights, including the right to a hearing on any charges and allegations, the right to an attorney at her own expense, the right to examine witnesses who would testify against her, the right to present evidence in her favor and call witnesses on her behalf, or to testify herself, the right to contest the charges and allegations, the right to reconsideration, appeal or any other type of formal judicial review of this matter, and any other rights which may be accorded to her pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Procedures Act and the provisions of Chapter 632 of the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Nevada Administrative Code. Respondent agrees to waive the foregoing rights upon acceptance of this Agreement by the Board.
- Respondent understands that the Board is free to accept or reject this Agreement, and if rejected by the Board, a disciplinary proceeding may be commenced.
- 5. Should the Agreement be rejected by the Board, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration by the Board of such proposed Agreement, shall not disqualify the Board, or any of its members, from further participation, consideration, adjudication or resolution of these proceedings, and that no Board member shall be disqualified or challenged for bias therefore.
- 6. If, after notice and hearing, Respondent is found to have violated the terms or conditions of probations, the Board may revoke probation for Respondent and carry out the disciplinary order of revocation set forth herein. The Board shall have continuing jurisdiction over any petition to revoke probation filed against Respondent until such matter is final.
- 7. This Agreement shall only become effective when both parties have duly executed it and unless so executed, this Agreement will not be construed as an admission.
- 8. This Agreement shall not be construed as excluding or reducing any criminal or civil penalties or sanction or other remedies that may be applicable under federal, state or local laws.
- 9. This Agreement shall cover any nursing license or certificate issued by the State of Nevada.

Board may issue the following decision and order:

DECISION AND ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Nevada Licensed Professionaal Nurse, license number RN31233, issued in the name of CAROL BUCKNAM, be revoked, provided, however, that the execution of the order of revocation is stayed, and the license is placed on probation (RESTRICTED LICENSURE) for a minimum of five (5) years with the following terms and conditions:

1. <u>LICENSE MARKED "RESTRICTED" AND RETURN OF UNMARKED LICENSE</u>

Respondent shall have her license marked "Restricted" through out the probationary period. Upon receipt of the marked license, Respondent shall immediately return her unmarked license to the Board office.

WRITTEN NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS Respondent shall notify the Board, in writing of, and prior to, any change of address.

3. <u>ABSTINENCE FROM ALCOHOL, MOOD ALTERING DRUGS,</u> <u>CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES</u>

Respondent shall abstain from the use of alcohol and all mood-altering drugs and controlled substances except when absolutely required for documented medical treatment. All other methods of alternative treatment must be tried, and failure must be documented prior to use of any mood-altering drugs. This treatment must be prescribed by a person authorized by law to prescribe such substances, and who is knowledgeable about the disease of addiction and the Respondent's history. This treatment must be reported to the Board, in writing, within seven (7) days, accompanied by the above-described documentation. The Board may require additional treatment until Respondent documents sobriety after periods of prescribed drug use.

4. PARTICIPATION IN BOARD-APPROVED AFTERCARE PROGRAM Respondent shall participate in a Board-approved aftercare program for a minimum of one year. Such program shall include a minimum of weekly aftercare group sessions and individual

counseling not less than twice per month. Individual counseling shall be provided by a Board-approved Certified Substance Abuse Counselor, Certified Chemical Dependency Nurse, or other approved treatment provider.

5. COUNSELOR REPORTS (DUE QUARTERLY)

Respondent shall have a Board approved substance abuse counselor, or other state licensed counselor, associated with her aftercare program who shall:

- a. Have been approved by the Board prior to the initiation of treatment;
- b. Submit progress reports related to the plan of treatment every three (3) months;
- Identify at the completion of one (1) year of the aftercare program
 whether Respondent needs to continue in aftercare or other
 counseling;
- Respondent shall participate in individual counseling with a Board approved counselor until the counselor and the Executive Director or the Compliance Coordinator approve discontinuance;
- e. All changes in counselors shall be approved prior to their implementation;
- f. A second opinion may be required to terminate any counseling.

6 SUBMISSION OF EVIDENCE OF ATTENDANCE AT ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (AA) OR NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (NA) MEETINGS

Respondent shall attend a minimum of two (2) meetings per week of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) or Narcotics Anonymous (NA) throughout probation, and shall submit documentation of all meetings attended to the Board on a quarterly basis.

7 <u>SUBMISSION OF AA/NA SPONSOR REPORTS</u>

Respondent shall cause her AA or NA sponsor to submit reports addressing Respondent's progress in recovery, on forms provided by the Board, on a quarterly basis.

8. <u>ATTENDANCE AT NURSE SUPPORT GROUP</u>

Respondent shall attend weekly meetings of a Board-approved Nurse Support Group and submit documentation of all meetings attended to the Board on a quarterly basis.

9. <u>SUBMISSION TO URINE, BLOOD, OR OTHER TESTS FOR DRUGS OF</u> <u>ABUSE</u>

Respondent shall submit to random urine, blood or other tests for drugs of abuse and/or alcohol when requested by her counselor, supervisor, or representative of the Board; however, these tests shall occur no less than twelve (12) times per year. Respondent shall register with the Board approved urine drug screening program and, if necessary, cause her physician to write a standing order for testing for alcohol and drugs of abuse. These tests shall be treated as forensic specimens and submitted to a Board-approved laboratory. Respondent shall cause the results to be given to the requesting party and the Board. Any confirmed positive finding shall be reported immediately to the Board. Changes in frequency of tests may be approved by the Compliance Coordinator and/or the Disability Advisory Committee.

10. ATTENDANCE AT A BOARD MEETING MANDATORY

Respondent shall, during the first year of this Agreement, attend a minimum of one meeting of the Nevada State Board of Nursing during which disciplinary hearings are held. This shall not include any meeting at which her own case is considered.

11. TIME EARNED OFF PROBATION

Respondent shall only receive credit toward service of her probation period while employed in a capacity for which nursing licensure/certification is required and subject to adequate supervision approved by the Board.

12. WRITTEN EMPLOYMENT SITE APPROVAL BY BOARD STAFF

The Board shall approve all employment sites (changes in specialty and/or work site or unit, including changes within the same facility or under the same employer) requiring a nursing license/certificate prior to commencement of work. Approval is given through the Executive Director, or the Compliance Coordinator. Registration with the Board approved urine drug-screening program is required prior to commencement of employment.

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WRITTEN NOTIFICATION OF TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT TO BOARD

Respondent is required to notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after commencement or termination of any nursing employment. Any notification regarding termination shall contain a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding it.

14. **DIRECTION BY A REGISTERED NURSE**

Respondent shall be employed in a setting in which direction is provided by a Registered Nurse. Direction shall mean: the intermittent observation, guidance and evaluation of the nursing practice by a licensed professional nurse who may only occasionally be physically present; the degree of direction needed shall be determined by an evaluation of the patient care situation, and the demonstrated proficiency of the Respondent.

15. RESTRICTION FROM FUNCTIONING IN A SUPERVISORY ROLE

Respondent may not function as a supervisor, including as a head nurse or charge nurse for a minimum of one (1) year and unless approved by the Compliance Coordinator and/or the Disability Advisory Committee.

16. ACCESS TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Respondent shall have no access to controlled substances during her employment as a licensed nurse for a minimum of one (1) year and until specifically authorized by the Compliance Coordinator and/or the Disability Advisory Committee.

17. <u>LIMITATION ON HOURS WORKED</u>

Respondent shall not work more than ninety (90) hours in nursing in a two (2) week period. Changes in hours may be approved by the Compliance Coordinator and/or the Disability Advisory Committee.

18. SUBMISSION OF AGREEMENT TO IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR

Respondent shall provide a complete copy of this Agreement to her employer and immediate supervisor prior to commencement of work.

19. <u>INITIAL SUPERVISOR REPORTS (DUE PRIOR TO BEGINNING EMPLOYMENT)</u>

Respondent shall cause her nursing supervisor (the person who is directly responsible for everyday nursing functions) to submit a written report prior to the commencement of employment. A form is provided for this report. A report shall be submitted by each additional or subsequent supervisor during the entire probationary period and shall be due prior to the commencement of employment.

20. SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Respondent shall cause her nursing supervisor (the person who is directly responsible for everyday nursing functions) to submit quarterly written reports to the Board addressing work attendance, reliability, ability to carry out assigned nursing functions, ability to handle stress (change in behavior patterns), and any other information the employer or supervisor feels would assist the Board in its ultimate review of Respondent's case. The supervisor shall include notification of any infractions of laws that come to her attention, and any other relevant information.

21. **SELF REPORTS**

Respondent shall submit written reports, whether working or not, on her progress in recovery, her ability to handle stress, her mental and physical health, her current job duties and responsibilities, her ability to practice nursing safely, and any changes in her plan for meeting the stipulations of this Agreement. It is the Respondent's responsibility to resolve any confusion with the Executive Director or Associate Director for Compliance. Failure to demonstrate acceptable progress in recovery may be considered a violation of this Agreement.

22. REPORT DUE DATES

Respondent shall cause all reports to be in writing and submitted directly to the Board on a quarterly basis whether working or not unless otherwise specified. These reports shall begin one (1) month subsequent to the execution of this Agreement and are due no later than the last day of the month. It is the obligation of the Respondent to ensure that all written reports are on time. The failure to submit the reports on time may be considered a violation of this Agreement.

Changes in the frequency of reporting may be approved by the Executive Director or the Compliance Coordinator and/or the Disability Advisory Committee.

23. REQUIREMENT TO MEET WITH THE BOARD OR STAFF UPON REQUEST

Respondent shall meet with the Board or its representatives upon request and shall cooperate with representatives of the Board in their supervision and investigation of Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

24. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND MONITORING FEES (DUE MONTHLY)

Respondent shall be financially responsible for all requirements of this Agreement, including any financial assessments by the Board for the cost of monitoring her compliance with this Agreement. Respondent may be assessed a late fee for monitoring fees that are received more than ten (10) calendar days after the due date.

25. REQUIRED NOTIFICATION OF OTHER STATES OF LICENSURE AND/OR CERTIFICATION

Respondent shall, upon execution of this Agreement, provide a copy of this Agreement to any other state Board of Nursing in whose jurisdiction she has been issued a nursing license/certificate (current or not). Respondent shall also provide a copy of this Agreement to any other regulatory agency in whose jurisdiction she has applied or will apply for a license/certificate.

26. <u>VIOLATIONS TO BE REPORTED TO BOARD WITHIN SEVENTY-TWO</u> (72) HOURS

Respondent shall practice in accordance with the Nurse Practice Act and Board established Standards of Practice. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, employer policy or contracts, and orders of the Board, pertaining to the practice of nursing in this state. Any and all violations shall be reported by the Respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours. It is the Respondent's responsibility to resolve with the Executive Director, or the Compliance Coordinator any confusion regarding what laws pertain to nursing.

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27. <u>CONSEQUENCES OF FURTHER VIOLATIONS INCLUDING</u> <u>VIOLATIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT; AGREEMENT TO SURRENDER</u> <u>LICENSE AND/OR CERTIFICATE</u>

Respondent acknowledges that if she should violate one or more of the terms of restricted licensure/certification, the Board may revoke, or invoke other appropriate discipline against her license/certificate to practice nursing, subject only to the requirement that the Board shall, prior to such disciplinary action, conduct a hearing in accordance with the Nevada Nurse Practice Act for the limited purpose of establishing that there has, in fact, been a violation of the stipulations of this Agreement. In the event that a violation of the stipulations is alleged, Respondent agrees to surrender her license/certificate to the Executive Director, or the Compliance Coordinator, if they so request, and refrain from practicing nursing until entry of a final order of the Board or a court of competent jurisdiction, whichever last occurs, regarding a potential violation.

28. REPORTING TO NATIONAL DISCIPLINARY DATA BANKS

This Agreement will become part of the Respondent's permanent record, will become public information, will be published with the list of disciplinary actions the Board has taken, and may be reported to any national repository which records disciplinary action taken against licensees or holders of certificates; or any agency or another state which regulates the practice of nursing. The Agreement may be used in any subsequent hearings by the Board.

29. TERMINATION OF PROBATION

Upon completion of the stipulations of this Agreement, Respondent shall apply for termination of probation and issuance of unrestricted licensure/certification on forms supplied by the Board. Respondent shall meet with the Compliance Coordinator and/or the Disability Advisory Committee for evaluation of compliance and recommendation for termination of probation. The probation shall continue until terminated by the Board.

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1	NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING retains jurisdiction in this case until all
2	conditions have been met to the satisfaction of the Board.
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4	Dated this 19 day of august, 2006 and Buchuan
5	RESPONDENT -
6	CAROL BUCKNAM
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9	CALIFORNIA State of Nevada
10	County of LOS-ANGELES
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12	This instrument was acknowledged before me on AUGUST 19th , 2006, by
13	CAROL ANN BUCKNAM.
14	Δ
15	VOGESH B. DESAI Commission # 1582168 Notary Public
16	Notary Public - California Los Angeles County
17	My Comm. Expires Jun 10, 2009
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21	Accepted and approved this 21 day of September 2006
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23	NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
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26	By: Helen Vos, MS, RN
27	Board President
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BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING IN THE MATTER OF

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CAROL BUCKNAM, RN

RESPONDENT

LICENSED PROFESSIONAL NURSE

NEVADA LICENSE NO. RN31233

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AGREEMENT FOR PROBATION (Disciplinary)

CASE NO. 1210-00C

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NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

This Agreement is hereby entered into between CAROL BUCKNAM, (RESPONDENT) and the NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING, (BOARD).

It is hereby stipulated and agreed, by and between the parties to the above-entitled matter, that the following statements are true:

- 1. RESPONDENT is aware of, understands, and has been advised of the effect of this Agreement, which Respondent herein has carefully read and fully acknowledges. No coercion has been exerted on the Respondent. Respondent acknowledges his/her right to an attorney at his/her own expense. The Respondent has had the benefit at all times of obtaining advice from competent counsel of his/her choice.
- 2. RESPONDENT understands the nature of the allegations under investigation by the Nevada State Board of Nursing. Respondent freely admits that the Board received a complaint from StarMed indicating that on or about December 7, 2000, while employed by StarMed and scheduled to work at Willow Creek Recovery Hospital, she was sent home because she allegedly had the smell of alcohol on her breath and was acting incoherent. Respondent further acknowledges that, while employed by USA Personnel in Las Vegas, Nevada, she received the following disciplinary actions:
 - a. On or about September 10, 1999, she was suspended based on her work performance at Sunrise Hospital during August of 1999. The counseling form indicates that the Respondent's performance was below minimal standards, documentation skills were poor, she does not observe the five rights of medication, medication not given on time, poor prioritization, PCA pump left in

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 room of discharged patient, syringe with narcotic left on a table, and inappropriate comments to family members.

b. On or about February 28, 2000, Respondent's employment with USA Personnel was terminated based on occurrences while working at Desert Springs Hospital, on or about February 11, 2000. The termination report indicates that the Respondent was not giving required medication when due and available, giving medication for increased heart rate when not needed, and poor medication assessment and competency.

Respondent acknowledges the conduct described in paragraph two (2) constitutes a violation of the Nevada Nurse Practice Act. (NRS and NAC 632) Respondent further acknowledges that such admissions subject him/her to disciplinary action by the Board.

- 3. RESPONDENT is aware of the Respondent's rights, including the right to a hearing on any charges and allegations, the right to an attorney at his/her own expense, the right to examine witnesses who would testify against him/her, the right to present evidence in his/her favor and call witnesses on his/her behalf, or to testify him/herself, the right to contest the charges and allegations, the right to reconsideration, appeal or any other type of formal judicial review of this matter, and any other rights which may be accorded to him/her pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Procedures Act and the provisions of Chapter 632 of the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Nevada Administrative Code. Respondent agrees to waive the foregoing rights upon acceptance of this Agreement by the Board.
- RESPONDENT understands that the Board is free to accept or reject this Agreement, and if rejected by the Board, a disciplinary proceeding may be commenced.
- 5. Should the Agreement be rejected by the Board, it is agreed that presentation to and consideration by the Board of such proposed Agreement, shall not disqualify the Board, or any of its members, from further participation, consideration, adjudication or resolution of these proceedings, and that no Board member shall be disqualified or challenged for bias therefore.
- 6. If, after notice and hearing, Respondent is found to have violated the terms or conditions of probations, the Board may revoke probation for Respondent and carry out the

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disciplinary order of revocation set forth herein. The Board shall have continuing jurisdiction of NURSING over any petition to revoke probation filed against Respondent until such matter is final.

- 7. This Agreement shall only become effective when both parties have duly executed it and unless so executed, this Agreement will not be construed as an admission.
- 8. This Agreement shall not be construed as excluding or reducing any criminal or civil penalties or sanction or other remedies that may be applicable under federal, state or local laws.
- 9. Based upon the foregoing stipulations and recitals, it is hereby agreed that the Board may issue the following decision and order:

DECISION AND ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Nevada Licensed Professional Nurse, license number RN31233, issued in the name of Carol Bucknam, be revoked, provided, however, that the execution of the order of revocation is stayed, and the license is placed on probation (RESTRICTED LICENSURE) for a minimum of three (3) years with the following terms and conditions:

1. <u>LICENSE MARKED "RESTRICTED" AND RETURN OF UNMARKED LICENSE</u>

RESPONDENT shall have his/her license marked "Restricted" through out the probationary period. Upon receipt of the marked license, Respondent shall immediately return his/her unmarked license to the Board office.

2. REQUIRED COURSE

RESPONDENT, within one (1) year of the execution of this agreement, shall successfully complete a non-homestudy pharmacology course. This course must be pre-approved, in writing, by the Executive Director or the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice prior to

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taking the course. Documentation of successful course completion must be submitted to the OF NURSING Board within one (1) year of the execution of this order.

3. <u>ABSTINENCE FROM ALCOHOL, MOOD ALTERING DRUGS,</u> <u>CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES</u>

RESPONDENT shall abstain from the use of alcohol and all mood-altering drugs and controlled substances except when absolutely required for documented medical treatment. All other methods of alternative treatment must be tried, and failure must be documented prior to use of any mood-altering drugs. This treatment must be prescribed by a person authorized by law to prescribe such substances, and who is knowledgeable about the disease of addiction and the Respondent's history. This treatment must be reported to the Board, in writing, within seven (7) days, accompanied by the above-described documentation. The Board may require additional treatment until Respondent documents sobriety after periods of prescribed drug use.

4. <u>CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY EVALUATION/FOLLOW</u> <u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>

RESPONDENT shall have a chemical dependency evaluation completed by a Board approved provider within the first sixty (60) days of this executed Agreement. Respondent will direct the evaluator to provide results of her evaluation directly to the Board. Respondent shall follow any/all recommendations of the provider.

5. COUNSELING REQUIREMENT/D.A.C. EVALUATION

RESPONDENT shall attend weekly counseling sessions with a Board approved provider for six (6) months from the execution of this Agreement. Upon completion of the six months of counseling, RESPONDENT shall meet with the Board's Disability Advisory Committee for evaluation. Respondent is responsible for scheduling her appointment with the Disability Advisory Committee. Weekly counseling shall continue until changes in frequency have been approved by the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice and the Board's Disability Advisory Committee.

6. <u>COUNSELOR REPORTS (DUE MONTHLY)</u>

RESPONDENT shall have her Board approved counselor provide the following:
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NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

these tests shall occur no less than two (2) times every month. Respondent shall cause his/her

physician to write a standing order for testing for alcohol and drugs of abuse. These tests shall

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be treated as forensic specimens and submitted to a Board-approved laboratory. Respondent

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shall cause the results to be given to the requesting party and the Board. Any confirmed positive finding shall be reported immediately to the Board. Changes in frequency of tests may be approved by the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice and the Disability Advisory Committee.

11. ATTENDANCE AT A BOARD MEETING MANDATORY

RESPONDENT shall, during the first year of this Agreement, attend a minimum of one meeting of the Nevada State Board of Nursing during which disciplinary hearings are held. This shall not include any meeting at which his/her own case is considered.

12. TIME EARNED OFF PROBATION

RESPONDENT shall only receive credit toward service of his/her probation period while employed in a capacity for which nursing licensure/certification is required and subject to adequate supervision approved by the Board.

13. WRITTEN EMPLOYMENT SITE APPROVAL BY BOARD STAFF

The Board shall approve all employment sites (changes in specialty and/or work site or unit, including changes within the same facility or under the same employer) requiring a nursing license/certificate <u>prior to commencement of work.</u> Approval is given through the Executive Director, or the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice.

14. WRITTEN NOTIFICATION OF TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT TO BOARD

RESPONDENT is required to notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after commencement or termination of any nursing employment. Any notification regarding termination shall contain a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding it.

15. <u>DIRECTION BY A REGISTERED NURSE</u>

RESPONDENT shall be employed in a setting in which direction is provided by a Registered Nurse. Direction shall mean: the intermittent observation, guidance and evaluation of the nursing practice by a licensed professional nurse who may only occasionally be physically present; the degree of direction needed shall be determined by an evaluation of the patient care situation, and the demonstrated proficiency of the Respondent.

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RESTRICTION FROM FUNCTIONING IN A SUPERVISORY RO

RESPONDENT may not function as a supervisor, including as a head nurse or charge nurse for a minimum of one (1) year and unless approved by the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice and the Disability Advisory Committee.

17. LIMITATION ON HOURS WORKED

RESPONDENT shall not work more than ninety (90) hours in nursing in a two (2) week period. Changes in hours may be approved by the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice and the Disability Advisory Committee.

SUBMISSION OF AGREEMENT TO IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR 18. RESPONDENT shall provide a copy of this Agreement to her employer and immediate supervisor.

INITIAL SUPERVISOR REPORTS (DUE PRIOR TO BEGINNING 19. **EMPLOYMENT**)

RESPONDENT shall cause his/her nursing supervisor (the person who is directly responsible for everyday nursing functions) to submit a written report prior to the commencement of employment. A form is provided for this report that includes:

- a. Name and address of employer and name of immediate supervisor;
- b. Duties and responsibilities to be carried out by Respondent in the form of a job description;
- c. Acknowledgement from the supervisor that this Agreement has been read, that the role of the supervisor is understood, and that the supervisor agrees to participate in the Respondent's probationary stipulations as outlined in this Decision and Order.

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NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

A report of this content shall be submitted by each additional or subsequent employer during the entire probationary period and shall be due prior to the commencement of employment.

20. SUPERVISOR REPORTS (DUE QUARTERLY)

RESPONDENT shall cause his/her nursing supervisor (the person who is directly responsible for everyday nursing functions) to submit quarterly written reports to the Board addressing work

attendance, reliability, ability to carry out assigned nursing functions, ability to handle stress of NURSING (change in behavior patterns), and any other information the employer or supervisor feels would assist the Board in its ultimate review of Respondent's case. The supervisor shall include notification of any infractions of laws that come to his/her attention, and any other relevant information.

21. SELF REPORTS (DUE QUARTERLY WHETHER WORKING OR NOT)
RESPONDENT shall submit written reports, whether working or not, on his/her progress in recovery, his/her ability to handle stress, his/her mental and physical health, his/her current job duties and responsibilities, his/her ability to practice nursing safely, and any changes in his/her plan for meeting the stipulations of this Agreement. It is the Respondent's responsibility to resolve any confusion with the Executive Director or Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice. Failure to demonstrate acceptable progress in recovery may be considered a violation of this Agreement.

22. REPORT DUE DATES

RESPONDENT shall cause all reports to be in writing and submitted directly to the Board on a quarterly basis unless otherwise specified. These reports shall begin three (3) months subsequent to the execution of this Agreement and are due no later than the last day of the month. It is the obligation of the Respondent to insure that all written reports are on time. The failure to submit the reports on time may be considered a violation of this Agreement. Changes in the frequency of reporting may be approved by the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice and the Disability Advisory Committee.

23. REQUIREMENT TO MEET WITH THE BOARD OR STAFF UPON REQUEST

RESPONDENT shall meet with the Board or its representatives upon request and shall cooperate with representatives of the Board in their supervision and investigation of Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

24. <u>FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND MONITORING FEES (DUE MONTHLY)</u>

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RESPONDENT shall be financially responsible for all requirements of this Agreement, of this Agreement, including any financial assessments by the Board for the cost of monitoring his/her compliance with this Agreement.

25. WRITTEN NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS

RESPONDENT shall notify the Board, in writing of, and prior to, any change of address.

26. <u>EFFECT ON ALL LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION IN THIS STATE</u> This Agreement shall cover any nursing license and/or certification issued by the State of Nevada.

27. REQUIRED NOTIFICATION OF OTHER STATES OF LICENSURE AND/OR CERTIFICATION

RESPONDENT shall, upon execution of this Agreement, inform any other state board of nursing in whose jurisdiction he/she has been issued a license/certificate (current or not), or in whose jurisdiction he/she has applied for a license/certificate, or will apply for a license/certificate, of this Agreement. Respondent shall provide a copy of this Agreement to said Board(s) of Nursing.

28. TERMINATION OF PROBATION

Upon completion of the stipulations of this Agreement, Respondent shall apply for termination of probation and issuance of unrestricted licensure/certification on forms supplied by the Board. Respondent shall meet with the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice and the Disability Advisory Committee for evaluation of compliance and recommendation for termination of probation. The probation shall continue until terminated by the Board. The Board will determine whether or not probation will be terminated.

29. <u>VIOLATIONS TO BE REPORTED TO BOARD WITHIN SEVENTY-TWO</u> (72) HOURS

RESPONDENT shall practice in accordance with the Nurse Practice Act and Board established Standards of Practice. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, employer policy or contracts, and orders of the Board, pertaining to the practice of nursing in this state. Any and all violations shall be reported by the Respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72)

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NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

hours. It is the Respondent's responsibility to resolve with the Executive Director, or the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice any confusion regarding what laws pertain to nursing.

30. CONSEQUENCES OF FURTHER VIOLATIONS INCLUDING VIOLATIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT; AGREEMENT TO SURRENDER LICENSE AND/OR CERTIFICATE

RESPONDENT acknowledges that if he/she should violate one or more of the terms of restricted licensure/certification, the Board may revoke, or invoke other appropriate discipline against his/her license/certificate to practice nursing, subject only to the requirement that the Board shall, prior to such disciplinary action, conduct a hearing in accordance with the Nevada Nurse Practice Act for the limited purpose of establishing that there has, in fact, been a violation of the stipulations of this Agreement. In the event that a violation of the stipulations is alleged, Respondent agrees to surrender his/her license/certificate to the Executive Director, or the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practice, if they so request, and refrain from practicing nursing until entry of a final order of the Board or a court of competent jurisdiction, whichever last occurs, regarding a potential violation. Respondent agrees to waive his/her right to appeal the substantive legal basis of the disciplinary action. In the event an alleged violation of probationary licensure/certification is taken to hearing and the facts which constitute the violation are determined to be not proven, no disciplinary action shall be taken by the Board and the probationary licensure/certification previously ordered by the Board shall again be operative and in full force and effect.

31. CONSEQUENCES OF OTHER MISCONDUCT

In the event other misconduct is reported to the Board, this Agreement may be used as evidence against the Respondent to establish a pattern of behavior and for the purpose of proving additional acts of misconduct.

32. REPORTING TO NATIONAL DISCIPLINARY DATA BANKS

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This agreement will become part of the Respondent's permanent record, will become public in formation, will be published with the list of disciplinary actions the Board has taken, and will be reported to a national disciplinary data bank, either the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank or National Council of State Boards of Nursing's Nursys. The Agreement may be used in any subsequent hearings by the Board.

WAIVER OF RIGHT TO APPEAL 33.

RESPONDENT agrees to waive his/her right to appeal the substantive legal basis of the disciplinary action. In the event an alleged violation of probationary licensure/certification is taken to hearing and the facts which constitute the violation are determined to be not proven, no disciplinary action shall be taken by the Board and the probationary licensure/certification previously ordered by the Board shall again be operative and in full force and effect.

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING retains jurisdiction in this case until all conditions have been met to the satisfaction of the Board.

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ESPONDENT	- All Sall B	
	Cookie Bible, BSN, RNC, APN	
	Board President	
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Debra Scott, MS, RN

Associate Executive Director RECEIVED L.V. For Nursing Practice DEC 2 1 2001

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Notary Public

STATE OF DEVADA
COUNTY OF CLAYK
This instrument was acknowledged before me on December 21, 200
by Carol Bucknam.
PATRICIA D. BAKERINK Notary Public State of Nevada No. 93-4593-1 My appt. exp. Sept. 15, 2005
Notary Duklin

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NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSIN

BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

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In the Matter of

CAROL BUCKNAM,
Registered Nurse,
License No. 31233,
Respondent.

Case No. 1210-00C

FINDINGS OF FACT,
CONCLUSIONS OF LAY
AND ORDER

IT APPEARING on the 20th day of September, 2002, a hearing was held in the above matter by the Nevada State Board of Nursing (Board), at the Grant Sawyer Building, 555 E. Washington, Las Vegas, Nevada, at 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, in compliance with the provisions of Chapters 233B and 632 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and Chapter 632 of the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). The Respondent appeared and at all times herein represented herself.

IT FURTHER APPEARING to the satisfaction of the Board that at least 21 working days prior to the date of the hearing Respondent had been noticed of the said hearing by certified mail to Respondent's last known residential address, and that it had jurisdiction over this matter, the Board proceeded to make a determination.

The Board having duly considered the testimony and exhibits and having fully considered the law, and being fully advised herein, make the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order:

FINDINGS OF FACT

I.

On approximately August 13, 2002, Respondent was sent, via certified mail, an administrative complaint and notice of hearing in Case No. 1210-00C alleging violations of the Nevada Nurse Practice Act (NRS/NAC 632).

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On or about September 20, 2002, Respondent signed a stipulation of facts and liability in Case No. 1210-00C admitting to violating the Nevada Nurse Practice Act and that she may be subject to disciplinary action.

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On September 20, 2002, the Board accepted the stipulation of facts and liability signed by

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Respondent in this case.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- Pursuant to NRS 233B.121(5), the Board may accept a stipulation as an informal 1. resolution of a case.
- Based on the contents of the stipulation of facts and liability, Respondent was found to 2. have violated NAC 632.890(35), failing to comply with a condition, limitation or restriction which has been placed on his license or certificate.
- Based on the foregoing violation, Respondent was found guilty of violating one (1) 3. count of NRS 632.320(7), unprofessional conduct.

ORDER

Based on the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and good cause appearing therefor,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, pursuant to NRS 632.320 and/or NAC 632.926(1)(h), Respondent's Nevada Nursing License No. 31233 is revoked. Pursuant to NAC 632.929, Respondent may not apply for re-licensure for a period of one (1) year. Prior to applying for re-licensure, Respondent must complete a chemical dependency program approved by the Board. Successful completion of the foregoing criteria does not imply automatic reinstatement.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the revocation become part of Respondent's permanent record, be published on the Board's list of disciplinary actions, and be reported to the appropriate disciplinary data banks.

Pursuant to NRS 632.400(2), the ruling of the Board contained in these Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order shall take effect upon service to the Respondent or when the Board receives a return from the United States Postal Service indicating the Respondent refused service or could not be located. If no return is received by the Board, the order shall become effective 30 days from the date of the order.

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DATED this ____ day of Activate, 2002.

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

COOKIE BIBLE, R.N. A.P.N.

President

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NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I am an employee of the Nevada State Board of Nursing and that on this 16th day of October, 2002, I served a copy of the foregoing FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER, by placing said documents in the U.S. Mail, certified, return receipt requested and postage prepaid, addressed to:

CAROL BUCKNAM 536 EAST H ST ONTARIO, CA 91764

April Kastor

Management Assistant

BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING

2 IN THE MATTER OF

CAROL BUCKNAM LICENSED

REGISTERED NURSE NEVADA LICENSE

NO. RN31233, LICENSED PRACTICAL

NURSE NO. LPN 09976, CERTIFIED

NURSING ASSISTANT NO. 006904

RESPONDENT

STIPULATION OF FACTS AND LIABILITY

CASE NO. 1210-00C

Stipulation of Facts

The parties do acknowledge and stipulate the following facts:

- 1. RESPONDENT acknowledges that she has had the opportunity to consult with an attorney prior to signing this Stipulation of Facts and Liability.
- 2. RESPONDENT is licensed as a Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse and Certified Nursing Assistant in the State of Nevada and was licensed at the time of the conduct described herein and is, therefore, subject to the jurisdiction of the Board.
 - 3. RESPONDENT acknowledges that she was placed on a three (3) year Agreement for Probation by the Board in January 2002, for the following, "On or about September 10, 1999, she was suspended based on her work performance at Sunrise Hospital during August of 1999. The counseling form indicates that the Respondent's performance was below minimal standards, documentation skill were poor, she does not observe the five rights of medication, medication not given on time, poor prioritization, PCA pump left in the room of a discharged patient, syringe with narcotic left on a table, and inappropriate comments to family members." "On or about February 28, 2000, Respondent's employment with USA Personnel was terminated based on occurrences while working at Desert Springs Hospital, on or about February 11, 2000. The termination report indicates that the Respondent was not giving required medication when due and

available, giving medication for increased heart rate when not needed and poor medication assessment and competency."

- RESPONDENT was ordered to comply with certain terms and conditions of probation.
- 5. RESPONDENT acknowledges that since acceptance of the aforementioned Agreement for Probation, Respondent has failed to timely comply with the terms and conditions of said Agreement by the following means:
 - a. On or about June 26, 2002, RESPONDENT submitted copies of Nurse Support Group and AA/NA meeting attendance sheets for May and June, which allegedly were obtained while living in California. RESPONDENT also submitted a problem index and action plan allegedly completed by the Inland Valley Drug and Alcohol Recovery Services in Upland California. No April reports were received at that time.
 - On or about February 2002 RESPONDENT failed to submit a CD evaluation as required by RESPONDENTS agreement.
 - c. As of July 31, 2002, RESPONDENT failed to submit any urine drug screens as required by RESPONDENT'S agreement.
 - d. As of July 31, 2002, RESPONDENT has failed to submit all but one month's fees.
 - e. On or about July 25, 2002, RESPONDENT contacted the Board staff via telephone and stated that RESPONDENT continued to drink alcohol through March of 2002 and was terminated from employment at that time and moved to California due to the RESPONDENTS drinking and gambling problems. RESPONDENT indicated the desire to endorse her nursing license to California. RESPONDENT indicated that a CD evaluation was done by a non-approved provider and would be sending the report to the Board. It was not received as of July 31, 2002.

Stipulation of Liability

The parties do acknowledge and stipulate that the acts or omissions of Respondent constitutes a violation of the Nevada Revised Statues (NRS), chapter 632, and the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), chapter 632, as follows:

NRS 632.320 GROUNDS FOR DENIAL, REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE OR OTHER DISCIPLINARY

Has willfully failed to comply with a regulation, subpoena or order of the Board.

WHEREFORE, based on the above Stipulations of Facts and Liability, the PARTIES, hereto, request that the Board discipline the Respondent pursuant to NRS 632.320 and/or NRS 632.325 and NAC 632.926-927 as deemed appropriate. Respondent understands that all disciplinary actions become a part of the Respondent's permanent record, will become public information, will be published with the list of disciplinary actions the Board has taken, and may be reported to any national repository which records disciplinary action taken against licensees or holders of certificates; or any agency or another state which regulates the practice of nursing. The Stipulation of Facts and Liability may be used in any subsequent hearings by the Board. Respondent understands the above Stipulation of Facts and Liability shall not be construed as excluding or reducing any criminal or civil penalties or sanction or other remedies that may be applicable under federal, state or local laws. Respondent him/herself asks that the Board act with justice and mercy.

i	applicable under federal, state or local laws.	Respondent him/herself asks that the Board act with
·	justice and mercy.	able that the Board act with
	Carol Bulenam RESPONDENT	NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING Cookie Bible, BSN, RNC, APN Board President
	9-20-02 Date	920.02 Date
1	Pyratine witnessed by	fally Inis (w)
		Debra Scott, MS, RN
		Executive Director
		Date

CEIVED - RENO AUG 1 5 2002 NEVADA STATE DARD OF NURSING	BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING
In the Matter of CAROL BUCKNAM, Registered Nurse, License No. 31233,	Case No. 1210-00C COMPLAINT AND NOTICE OF HEARING
Respon	lent.

The Nevada State Board of Nursing (Board), by and through counsel, Frankie Sue Del Papa, Attorney General of the State of Nevada, and Keith D. Marcher, Senior Deputy Attorney General, hereby notifies Respondent, Carol Bucknam, of an administrative hearing, which is to be held pursuant to Chapters 233B and 632 of the Nevada Revised Statutes and Chapter 632 of the Nevada Administrative Code. The purpose of the hearing is to consider the allegations stated below and to determine if the Respondent should be subject to an administrative penalty as set forth in NRS 632.320 and/or NRS 632.325 and/or NAC 632.926-.927, if the stated allegations are proven at the hearing by the evidence presented.

Respondent, Carol Bucknam, is currently and at the times mentioned herein, licensed as a registered nurse in the State of Nevada and is, therefore, subject to the jurisdiction of the Board and the provisions of NRS Chapter 632 and NAC Chapter 632.

IT IS HEREBY ALLEGED AND CHARGED AS FOLLOWS:

I.

On approximately December 21, 2001, Respondent signed an agreement for disciplinary probation (three years) in Case No. 1210-00C. The Board accepted Respondent's agreement for probation in January 2002.

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The foregoing agreement required Respondent to comply with certain terms and conditions to avoid further disciplinary action against her Nevada nursing license.

Attorney General's Office 100 N. Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701-4717

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To this date, Respondent has failed to comply with specific terms and conditions and is in violation of her agreement with the Board.

IV.

The foregoing conduct constitutes grounds for disciplinary action pursuant to NRS 632.320(7), unprofessional conduct, including the acts found at NAC 632.890(35), failing to comply with a condition, limitation or restriction which has been placed on his license or certificate.

Based on the foregoing:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that a disciplinary hearing has been set to consider this Administrative Complaint against the above-named Respondent in accordance with Chapters 233B and 632 of the Nevada Revised Statutes and Chapter 632 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

THE HEARING WILL TAKE PLACE on Friday, September 20, 2002, commencing at 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the Board is able to hear the matter, at the Grant Sawyer Building, Capitol Police Conference Room, 555 East Washington, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101. This case and other matters are scheduled to be heard by the Board.

PURSUANT TO NRS 632.350, Respondent may request, in writing, that the Board furnish copies of communications, reports, and affidavits in its possession, regarding the above-referenced matter.

As the Respondent, you are specifically informed that you have the right to appear and be heard in your defense, either personally or through counsel of your choice. You have the right to respond and to present relevant evidence and argument on all issues involved. You have the right to call and examine witnesses, introduce exhibits, and cross-examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issues involved.

You have the right to request that the Board issue subpoenas to compel witnesses to testify and/or evidence to be offered on your behalf. In making this request, you may be required to demonstrate the relevancy of the witness' testimony and/or evidence.

The purpose of the hearing is to determine if the Respondent has violated NRS 632.320(7), and/or NAC 632.890(35), and if the allegations contained herein are substantially proven by the

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evidence presented to further determine what administrative penalty is to be assessed against the Respondent, if any, pursuant to NRS 632.320 and/or NRS 632.325 and/or NAC 632.926-.927.

Should the Respondent fail to appear at the hearing, a decision may still be reached by the Board. As the Respondent, you are further advised that you may be charged with cost associated with the hearing pursuant to NRS 632.325(1)(c).

Pursuant to NRS 233B.121(5), informal disposition of this case may be made by stipulation, agreed settlement, consent order, or default. Any attempt to negotiate this case should be made through Keith D. Marcher, Senior Deputy Attorney General.

DATED this 13 day of August, 2002.

FRANKIE SUE DEL PAPA Attorney General

Senior Deputy Attorney General 100 North Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701-4717

(775) 684-1201

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I am an employee of the Office of the Attorney General, and that on this B day of August, 2002, I served a copy of the foregoing COMPLAINT AND NOTICE OF HEARING, by placing said document in the U.S. Mail, certified, return receipt requested and postage prepaid, addressed to:

Carol Bucknam 536 East H Street Ontario CA 91764

An Employee of the Office of the Attorney General

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Attorney General's Office 100 N. Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701-4717